

**31st August 2010 – (Note: see 17<sup>th</sup> September Revision at end)**

## **COMMUNITY ART PROJECT – UPDATE NINE**

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### **PRESENT NUMBERS IN PROJECT**

Further designs were approved at both the July and September Town Council Meetings.

There are now 10 painted (including the World Cup tests which remain) and two are in progress. 6 bollards are now in the Square.

### **FEEDBACK**

A very encouraging call was received from Luton Council who had found out about the way this project has been run and were interested in learning more with a possibility of following our 'model'. They may be arranging a visit!

### **LAUNCH**

A very successful 'launch' was held at the White Hart combined with a walk about! I was overwhelmed by the support, numbers attending and the fun and creativity that went through the whole evening and thank all who attended.

There is a report on the official town website.

<http://whitchurch.org.uk/2010/07/bollards-project-officially-launched-with-walk-about-and-party/>

A further similar event will be held at a later date.

### **FUTURE PLANS**

There are a number of community groups developing ideas for submission, including the concept of local event advertising.

Fairtrade and Youth groups are involved.

There are also tentative plans for occasional Bollard Tours!

A 'trail' leaflet will be produced when a few more are completed in the Square, probably towards the end of this year.

The Five Gold Rings idea remains listed on the Basingstoke & Deane's website. A leaflet is available on request

### **FAMILY/CHILDREN COMPETITION**

The winning design is now underway in Bell Street Car Park as 'Bollard No.6'. A launch/publicity presentation will be arranged in due course. The other 'children's bollard' depicting Meadow activities is now complete in the Square.

In addition a further children's painting activity, perhaps in conjunction with a local business (hopefully), is in the pipeline.

## **NEGATIVE PRESS**

The small distressing local campaign against the project is being escalated by two individuals on a Forum focusing on the volunteers assisting with the project. Please contact for further details.

## **FINANCES**

All detailed finances are with Whitchurch Association.

There will be required payments mainly for materials in the next few weeks.

<http://www.whitchurchbollards.org.uk/>

### **17.9.10 REV: (following a suggestion on the Working4Whitchurch Forum)**

A suggestion appeared on a Forum from Mr Bill Judge that some of the SEEDA funds could provide a computer to enable a young lad to design a bollard. The following statement on the funding has been received from Whitchurch Association, the body charged with accounting for the SEEDA funds under the contractual agreement:

*Whilst the Whitchurch Association applauds any effort to benefit less advantaged residents, SEEDA Small Rural Towns funding cannot by Law be used for the benefit of individuals, no matter how worthy or deserving.*

*The only computer equipment that could be purchased is to benefit local businesses or the economy. Changing the scope of the Arts Project is not allowed under the funding rules, as everybody\* who made up the Committee was very well aware of.*

*Furthermore, with the dissolution of the Town Centre Improvements Project committee, the Whitchurch Association is charged with completion of the existing projects as agreed between all Town Centre Improvement Programme partners at the time.*

*Mr Judge is free to petition many different organisations including the Whitchurch Welfare Trust to obtain funding for this deserving cause, and we wish him every success.*

*Whitchurch Association*

*\* TCIP Steering Group committee members included: Working 4 Whitchurch, Hampshire County Council, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council, Whitchurch Town Council, Whitchurch Association, SEEDA*

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